

ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

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<http://www.aspsi.com/>

AGENDA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FRIDAY, May 30, 2008, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

DESALES UNIVERSITY, CENTER VALLEY, PA

- 1) Meeting called to order by President - Rev. Harry L. Serio, D.Min.
- 2) Invocation - Rev. Harry L. Serio L. Serio, D.Min.
- 3) Minutes of June 1, 2007 Board meeting read/approved
- 4) President's Report - Rev. Harry L. Serio, D.Min. (see attachment)
- 5) Publications Committee Report - Michael E. Tymn, Chairman (see attachment)
  - Suggestion to have paid advertising in ASPSI publications - Steve Hall
  - Photographs of ASPSI speakers, Board Members, members in *The Searchlight?*
- 6) ASPSI Website Status Report - John Rayner, Web Master (see attachment)
- 7) Program Committee Report - Boyce Batey, Chairman (see attachment)
  - 2008 Conference at DeSales University
  - List of suggested topics for 2009 Annual Conference
  - Karen Herring has volunteered to write articles on the three forums and workshop for publication in the 2008 conference Proceedings
  - Theme, dates and place for 2009 conference?
- 8) Research Committee Report - James E. Beichler, Ph.D., Chairman (see attachment)
- 9) Public Relations Committee Report - Rev. Dr. Harry L. Serio, Chairman (see attachment)
  - Publicity/Public Relations/Networking and Membership Building
  - Board member suggestions (see attachment):
- 10) Executive Director's Report - Boyce Batey, Executive Director (see attachment)
  - Board member support needed to increase membership
  - SFF relationship with ASPSI - Rev. Dr. L. Richard Batzler (see attachment)
- 11) Financial Report - Boyce Batey, Executive Director (see attachment)
- 12) 2008/2009 Budgets presented/discussed/adopted - B, Batey, Exec. Dir. (see attachment)

13) Fund-Raising Committee Report - John F. Miller III, Ph.D., Chairman (in absentia)

- Invitation to sponsor publication of *The Searchlight* issues (\$210 per issue)

14) Old Business:

- Issue credible CEUs to professionals attending ASPSI conferences - Karen Herrick

15) New Business:

- Form Education Committee to check feasibility, develop, plan courses/list of speakers; offer courses on DVD/CDs or over the web (see [www.teach12.com](http://www.teach12.com) /similar websites) - J. Beichler
- Suggestion by non-member to have conference presentations on CDs rather than cassettes

16) Election of Board of Directors (7 for Class of 2011) - Boyce Batey

- Resignation of Anna Marie Hrivnak. M.Ed., Class of 2008

Nominees:

Boyce Batey  
R. Craig Hogan, Ph.D.  
Louis E. LaGrand, Ph.D.  
John Franklin Miller, Ph.D.  
Karin K. Nemri, CSC  
John Rayner, B.Sc.  
\*Patricia Stranahan, N.D.  
Michael E. Tymn.

17) Appointment of Committees and Committee Chairs - Rev. Harry L. Serio, D.Min.

Program -  
Publications -  
Research -  
Fund-Raising -  
Public Relations -

18) Select dates, time, and place for 2009 Board meeting/conference:

19) Benediction and adjournment - Rev. Harry L. Serio, D.Min.:

## ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

### Report of the President

The Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies, Inc. serves an important function, not only in “disseminating knowledge of how paranormal phenomena may relate to and enhance the development of the human spirit,” but in validating the experiences of those who have witnessed paranormal events and providing hope and insight into the existence of an afterlife. I believe that this is a message that we need to proclaim and one that will be well-received by the appropriate audience.

I express my appreciation to those who provide leadership and direction to this organization and make it a viable entity: Boyce Batey, our very capable and efficient executive director who responds to countless details throughout the year and keeps the ASPSI machinery well oiled and operational; Michael E. Tymn, chair of the Publications Committee and editor of *The Searchlight*; Dr. Donald R. Morse, editor-in-chief of the *Journal*; John Rayner, our webmaster who this year has undertaken a major redesign of our web site.

### *2008 Annual Meeting*

Last year’s annual conference was exceptional, both in the number of those who attended, as well as the quality and number of presentations. Dr. Raymond Moody, our keynote speaker, the first to be funded by the Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund, and the theme of the conference, “What the Bleep Do We Know About Life After Death?,” generated more attendees than we have had in the recent past.

Immediately after the conclusion of last year’s meeting, it was felt that we should return to DeSales University, Allentown, PA. One of the suggestions made was that the annual conference should try to provide more time for dialogue and interaction, and we have tried to accommodate this request.

The Second Annual Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Michael Grosso, Ph.D. His keynote address will be “Mysticism and Life After Death.”

Since registration for this year’s conference is currently slightly more than half of 2007's, we will need to address the question of what we did right last year and how we can improve next year.

### *Insurance*

Last year we paid a premium of \$1,148 for a Special Events policy for the conference since DeSales requires \$2,000,000 coverage naming them as additionally insured. For this year I was able to obtain a Commercial General Liability policy through my Nationwide agent for only \$350.

### ***Public Relations***

In a separate report of the Public Relations Committee, I addressed the need for a more extensive approach to securing new members and informing those with common interest of the existence of ASPSI and the nature and scope of our endeavors. Needless to say, it is very difficult to build our membership base unless those in the field know who we are. Public relations and promotion are vital to our future existence.

### ***Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship International***

This is our erstwhile parent organization which no longer maintains viability and de facto ceases to exist. We should have a report on the current status of this organization and its dissolution.

I appreciate the interest and continuing advice and suggestions of our board members throughout the year that insure that we more than simply an annual organization. I look forward to the continuing quest for light and truth that the Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies, Inc. seeks to promote.

Respectfully,  
Harry L. Serio



## Publications Committee Report

The Publications Committee is concerned primarily with the production of the Academy's Journal and its quarterly magazine, The Searchlight. Both publications continue to be produced on a timely basis and within the budgets allocated. While there has been limited feedback from members, indications are that both publications meet with membership approval. One member has suggested that the Journal adopt a glossy cover to conform to standards and appearances of other academic journals, and this change has been approved, to be implemented with the July issue.

Dr. Susan Martinez, our book review editor, states that she has received an increasing number of requests for reviews of books that fall outside the scope of the Academy's purposes or objectives; however, this is not a major problem and is best handled on an individual basis.

Magazine editor Michael Tymn has considered a suggestion that the September issue of The Searchlight use photos of speakers and attendees at its annual conference. However, he does not believe that members are interested in seeing photos of people standing around and talking while holding glasses or cups. If members feels that several pages of the September issue should include such photos along with a recap of subject discussed at the conference, Mike will certainly further consider the matter.

Both editors Donald Morse and Michael Tymn invite recommendations and comments for changes or improvements of the two publications.

Michael E. Tymn

**From:** John D Rayner  
**To:** Boyce Batey  
**Date:** 5/21/2008 9:45:08 PM  
**Subject:** Web site report for 5-30-2008 Board Meeting

Dear Boyce,

Following our phone conversation today, here is the webmaster's report for our Board Meeting 5-30-2008. If you have to, please edit as necessary.

Namaste,

John.

----- start of report -----

## HISTORY

In anticipation of its future use, I secured and registered the domain name, aspsi.org, with GoDaddy.com in October, 2007. At that time, the ASPSI web site was hosted at [www.lightlink.com/arpr](http://www.lightlink.com/arpr), and whereas updates to that site were made to reflect the advent of ASPSI, the need became apparent to re-host the site under a more appropriate address. At my suggestion, and with the approval of Mark Scorelle, webmaster of the Lightlink site, and the Executive Committee, a new site was hosted with Godaddy - one of the most prominent and competitive web site hosting companies, with myself in the role of webmaster. (Initially, a free page at GoDaddy redirected visitors to the Linklight Site.)

All the computer files that implemented the Lightlink site were transferred to my PC at home, for web site development locally. As a first step, this content was uploaded without change (Old Structure) to [www.aspsi.org](http://www.aspsi.org), so that it essentially became a mirror site of the Lightlink site, pending its replacement under a New Structure. Under the New Structure, the original content was then assigned to a set of web



pages under the control of a new menu driven navigation system as seen at [www.aspsi.org](http://www.aspsi.org) today. With Mark Scorelle's assistance, all the web pages at Lightlink were replaced, name for name, with pages that - without display - automatically redirect/transfer the visitor to a explanatory page at aspsi.org. After a subsequent delay, the visitor is redirected/transferred to the aspsi.org home page. The Executive Committee will decide at what point the Lightlink site will be discontinued. We first went public with the completely restructured site (New Structure) a few hours before Mike Tymn's appearance as a guest on the Forever Family Foundation Internet radio program January 24 2008. Mike was able to quote our new site, aspsi.org, and did so with the New Structure in place.

At this point, legal ownership of the aspsi.org domain name and the GoDaddy web site hosting account needs to be transferred from myself to ASPSI, Inc. and is in process. This will ensure rights of access and control of the web site by ASPSI. Also, a co-webmaster needs to be appointed to ensure continuity in the event that I am no longer available to serve.

## TECHNOLOGY

To take advantage of the ability to effect common overall control of the appearance, 'look and feel', of pages on our site, the web server scripting language, PHP, is used. When a visitor requests a xxxx.php page, a page is generated, with its specific information content included, that has a contextual look and feel determined by site resident specification files created by the webmaster. Visit and move around the site to experience this. There are also pages on the site - such as printable forms - that are xxxx.htm or xxxx.html files that are complete in themselves and are simply delivered to the visitor 'as is'. If you want more information on these aspects, please contact me.

## VISITOR STATISTICS

GoDaddy provides us with a basic statistics service, which is free. Its only noticeable restriction is that statistics are accumulated on a yearly basis. I do not see that as a problem unless and until we become



more sophisticated in the area of Internet marketing. In that context, selling a product for money is the usual goal. In our case, securing membership from and being of service to as many people as we can that share our interests is our goal. We should make use of the best and most appropriate Internet marketing techniques with that in mind.

Please go to

[http://www.aspsi.org/stats123/page\\_requests-thru\\_08%5E05-20.htm](http://www.aspsi.org/stats123/page_requests-thru_08%5E05-20.htm) to view counts of visitor access to various pages on our aspsi.org site over the period January 24, 2008 03:11 to May 20, 2008 23:55. The addresses for each viewable page is rendered in blue and is a link. Click on it to view the page referenced. The 'Number of Requests' is the count of how many times that page was viewed. Ignore the 'Percentage of the Bytes' column unless you want more technical detail. If you need further guidance or elaboration please contact me.

## MAINTENANCE

This is an ongoing process. If you discover errors or room for improvement please let me know. I should report that I have received additional contributions from Mike Tymn that I still need to add to the website. They will added shortly.

## NEXT STEPS

The first objective has been met, namely to reproduce the content of the old Lightlink site under the New Structure at aspsi.org. The possible follow-on steps that I thought of were:

1. Free sign-up for an ASPSI on-line newsletter (Someone would have to take responsibility for writing it.) This way, we build a contact list of interested people.
2. On-line offer of Membership that would provide some FREE initial Journal transcripts, MP3 recordings etc.
3. Access to members of all ASPSI materials (conference presentations in MP3 or PDF formats, for example) available for download at quoted prices. (I found a good example of this approach by Googling with respect



to Rupert Sheldrake's work. See

<http://www.wie.org/unbound/media.asp?id=14>, then

<http://www.wie.org/unbound/about.asp>, which is a link off that page in the 'Audio' side bar under "Members only. More info") That's interesting. Could ASPSI make use of the <http://www.wie.org/> platform? Just an idea to explore.

4. Further improvement in the look and feel of standard pages.  
(Better background, more art work for 'widgets' - like menu buttons - etc.)

Your input at the Board Meeting May 30, 2008 would be appreciated.

### CRITICISM INVITED

I cannot believe that my and Boyce Batey's efforts in arriving at the present state of the [aspsi.org](http://www.aspsi.org) site are so perfect that no critique from other members of the board is unnecessary. In the interest of ASPSI's objectives. Please be most forthright in sharing your ideas and constructive criticism in making the [www.aspsi.org](http://www.aspsi.org) site as effective as possible. You know where we live!

John D. Rayner, ASPSI Webmaster.

----- end of report -----

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(To reach me, John D. Rayner, please use only my \*permanent\* email address, [raynerjd@mail.com](mailto:raynerjd@mail.com))

"Reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn't go away."

-- Philip K. Dick

-- [www.informationweek.com](http://www.informationweek.com) Friday, Feb. 16, 2007



May 20, 2008

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

At a June 2, 2007 Program Committee meeting, we decided our 2008 conference theme would be "Beyond the Veil: Evidence for Life After Death" at DeSales University, Center Valley, PA. We also decided to invite Shirley MacLaine to be our Keynote/Frank C. Tribbe Memorial speaker. We wished to meet on May 30-June 2 but were told that weekend had already been selected by another group, so we selected June 6 - 9 for the meeting date. After we publicized that date, in September we were given the choice of meeting on May 30 - June 2, selected it and revised our publicity.

We sent a Call for Proposed Presentations for our 2008 conference to all ASPSI members, 60 appropriate organizations, and our web master put the call on our website. We set a November 1, 2007 deadline for submission of presentation abstracts. Karen Herrick tried by phone and e-mail to contact Shirley MacLaine but was unsuccessful and our second choice, Bruce Greyson, M.D., was unavailable. We obtained suggestions from Program Committee members and selected Michael Grosso, Ph.D. as keynote speaker. By four weeks before the November 1 deadline, we'd received only two presentation proposals. On October 5, 2007, I sent an e-mail to all Board members asking them to send proposals and encourage others to send proposals. By the deadline, we received 14 presentation proposals and one workshop proposal. On November 7 I sent the proposals to Program Committee members for their review and recommendations. The majority of the Program Committee accepted all proposals

After putting together the conference program with 13 presentations, one workshop and two Forums, we had 2,000 conference brochures printed on January 10 and mailed to all Academy members. Our web master posted details of the conference and a printable registration form to our website. We mailed a cover letter with a copy of both the ASPSI and conference brochures to 60 appropriate organizations, asking them to publicize ASPSI and our conference in their publications and to their members. Information about our conference was publicized in *FATE Magazine* that goes to thousands of people. In January, both Michael Tymn and I were on the internet radio interview program of the Forever Family Foundation and publicized our conference. To my knowledge no one became an ASPSI member or registered for our conference from this publicity. The Forever Family Foundation also published an article on ASPSI and our conference in the April, 2008 issue of their newsletter, *Signs of Life* that goes to thousands of people. We had one response each from publicity in *Fate Magazine* and *Signs of Life*. Some conference presenters passed out conference brochures to clients and friends as a result of which several persons registered for the conference.

We included a conference brochure when sending membership renewal notices to Academy members in January, February, March, April, and May. We included a copy of the conference brochure in the bulk mailing of the April, 2008 issue of *The Journal of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies*. on April 5 and on April 14 mailed copies of the 2008 Conference Cassette Order Form and a *Proceedings* Order Form with the June, 2007 issue of our newsletter, *The Searchlight* to 167 ASPSI members in the United States. A few of our members also helped publicize the conference; Mike Tymn prepared a media release and contacted persons via e-mail; Harry Serio passed out conference brochures, sent press releases, and invited appropriate individuals in the Lehigh Valley area to attend the conference; Don Morse e-mailed all the Survivalist Group members, alerting them to our conference and website address; Karen Herrick passed out brochures to clients. There was very little response, to my knowledge, from other Board of Directors members to my February 22



Board of Directors meeting letter, urging them to publicize and encourage other individuals and groups to become ASPSI members and attend our 2008 conference. Other than Karen Herrick, Harry Serio, Yvonne Limoges and Don Morse, no other Board members requested additional conference brochures to use for publicity.

As of May 20, 2008, 41 persons had registered for the conference (40 less than last year). Of the 41, 38 have registered for the entire conference and 3 for several sessions. As a result of conference publicity, 6 persons became ASPSI members (29 fewer than last year) and of these 6 new members, all 6 will attend the conference. Of the 6 new members, 3 are Patron members. Of 35 new members last year to attend the conference, 15 were Patron members and all 15 attended the conference.

Last year we applied to the State of Pennsylvania for their approval to offer credible CEUs to educators but they didn't give approval so we didn't publicize that we offered CEUs for attendance at our 2008 conference

We requested and received from all presenters camera-ready copies of their papers for publication in the 2008 conference *Proceedings*. For conference attendees, we've prepared a 12 page program containing an abstract of each presentation and a lengthy biography of each presenter. To replace Stephen Hoyer and Linda Lloyd, who cancelled their appearance, we substituted a third forum on survival research with attendees will present conclusions reached during meal discussions on various categories of survival evidence. Also, Karen Herrick has volunteered to write articles on the three forums and the workshop on orbs for publication in the conference *Proceedings*.

I appreciate the help members of the Program Committee gave to me in developing the program. I thank them for their role in bringing together our 33rd annual conference. All Board members at this May 30 Board meeting received my May 14 e-mail with a list of the 31 topics Board members suggested as topics for our 2009 conference and my May 17 e-mail outlining subjects that those attending our 2007 conference gave, on the Evaluation forms, as topics for future conferences. You've had an opportunity to review these suggested topics and consider a title in advance which could use the words "What the Bleep" and whether it's appropriate to do so. We can have a brief discussion now, but **to reach consensus, let's plan on remaining in the conference room at noon on Sunday after P.M.H. Atwater's presentation for 15 minutes before luncheon to develop a topic, dates and location for our 2008 conference. (In their evaluation of the conference location at DeSales University last year, 9 said it was Excellent, 13 Good, 9 Fair and 2 Poor.) If we can't come to a consensus at this brief meeting, we'll meet at a later time.**

I move the acceptance of this Report.

  
Boyce Batey, Chairman - May 20, 2008



## COMM TOPIC SUGGESTIONS

May 30, 2008

The following material is to help Program Committee members as they have opportunities to meet and make decisions at the Board of Directors meeting from 2 - 5 p.m. on Friday, May 30, 2008 and/or at a Program Committee meeting BEFORE lunch on SATURDAY, MAY 31, on a topic for the 2009 annual conference.

### 2009 Suggested Annual Conference Topics

- 1) What the Bleep Do We Know About Reincarnation Evidence and Research? (I opine that using the phrase "What the Bleep" before the theme of our conference last year was the single most important factor in having doubled registrations at our 2007 conference and could well do so for our 2009 conference) - B. Batey
- 2) - I'll Be Back: The Case for Reincarnation - H. Serio
- 3) Honoring the Reincarnation Research of Ian Stevenson, M.D. - S. Hall
- 4) Going with the theme of Life after Death, perhaps Reincarnation? - K. Herrick
- 5) Paranormal Studies and Spirituality (A broad, general theme. Many others that were suggested were too narrow in scope.) - J. Miller
- 6) Electronic Voice Phenomena - S. Krippner
- 7) Practical Use of Psi Phenomena to Enhance the Quality of Life - L. LaGrand
- 8) Science, Skepticism and the Inexplicable Powers of the Human Mind - M. Tynn
- 9) Mysticism in World Religions - R. Batzler
- 10) Theology of Ecology - R. Batzler
- 11) Spiritual Dynamics in Globalism - R. Batzler
- 12) Apocalypticism in Religion and Science - R. Batzler
- 13) Exceptional Human Experiences and Implication for Psi Research - R. Batzler
- 14) The Expanding Universe: The Expanding Mind - K. Nemri
- 15) Bridging the Gap Between Science and Spirituality - K. Nemri
- 16) Discuss Origins/History of SFFI/ARPR/ASPSI - S. Hall
- 17) The Use of Encrypted Codes in Attempt to Prove Survival (Harry Houdini's pact with his wife and mother; Susy Smith's pact with Gary Schwarz ( the book, *The Afterlife Codes*) - S. Hall,
- 18) The Nature and Use of Scepticism in Investigating Survival and Mediumship Research - S. Hall
- 19) History and Overview of the of the "Forever Family Foundation" - S. Hall
- 20) Assess Significance of Dean Radin's Experiment, "Testing Non-Local Observation As a Source of Intuitive Knowledge" (*Explorer*, Jan/Feb, 2008, Vol. 4, No. 1) - S. Hall
- 21) Induced After-Death Communication (IADC) Using Allen Botkin's Modified EMDR - S. Hall
- 22) Healing Intentions: Does Prayer Work? (Discuss "John of God, Adam, Eric Pearl, etc. - S. Hall
- 23) Near-Death Experiences: Occam's Razor and the Pam Reynold's Case - S. Hall
- 24) Channeling Wisdom: Seth Materials, Course in Miracles, Abraham-Hicks - S. hall
- 25) The Love-Hate Relationship Between Law Enforcement and Psychic Detectives - S. Hall
- 26) Experiencing Truth versus Theoretical Research in Spirituality and the Paranormal - R. Kumar
- \*27) Life After Death: Does Paranormal Evidence and Religion Agree or Disagree? - M. Tynn
- \*28) Mediumship, Parapsychology and Religion - D. Morse
- 29) Sensations, Perceptions and Experience of the Paranormal (What does it feel like to experience the



paranormal (from reading a mind to the afterlife)” How do we know if we have experienced a paranormal event” How can we tell if we have read a mind or just guessed at someone’s thoughts? Is it always obvious? How do we recognize it when an event occurs if it is not obvious? When is a paranormal event genuine and genuinely paranormal?

\*30) Paranormal Studies and Spirituality (A perennial conference theme) for two years preceding the current year, we have identified a subject for the annual conference when sending a Call for Proposed Presentations, but because most papers didn’t relate to the announced subject, we changed the name of the conference to conform to the proposals we accepted for presentation. Having a perennial conference theme conforms with the name of the Academy and will help ensure that we have a broad range of subjects at our conference. I suggest we have a perennial conference theme and invite presentations on every area of spirituality and the paranormal such as consciousness research, altered, mystical, and transformational states of consciousness, survival research, psychical research, distant healing, spiritual healing, precognition, prophecy, mysticism, alien visitations, orbs, parapsychology, past life regression, precognition, quantum physics, parapsysics, after-death communication, religion, reincarnation, remote viewing, electronic voice phenomena, instrumental trans-communication, mental and physical mediumship, near-death experiences, out-of-body experiences, hauntings, apparitions, etc.) - B. Batey)

\*31) A New God for a New Millennium - (Our current concept of God is based upon the tribal needs of the Hebrew people four millennia ago. This God was reinterpreted by Jesus who embodied the divine spirit in such a way that his followers had a clearer understanding of God that was relevant to their needs. I question whether the theism of antiquity is still relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and propose a dialogue on how paranormal research has modified our view of God, whether we are moving toward a global religion, and how consciousness studies have made God more immanent than transcendent, and whether or not there really is a distinction. I think there is a need to address how reincarnation, after-death communication, spiritual healing, etc. interface with traditional faith and the need to re-think our understanding of the nature of God. - H. Serio

\* Themes suggested last year



**Research Committee Report for the year 2007/2008**  
**James E. Beichler, Chairperson**

It has been a busy year for me. Unfortunately, I have been too busy teaching to do much in the way of research for the ASPSI. Even my own research has suffered for the lack of time. During the Fall semester, when I had a lighter teaching load (only 18 load hours), a group of my students (Physics 397: Anomalous Science) and I carried out an elaborate experiment on 'orbs'. The results of the experiment will be presented in my workshop 'Orbium Coelestium'. The students were invited to attend this ASPSI meeting, but none took me up on the offer. The experiment on 'orbs' is a continuing experiment because of the wide variety of physical conditions involved, so it is not yet complete and I am continuing to take data (photos). I will ask attendees at the workshop for suggestions on how to further the experiment and if they would like to participate in further aspects of the experiment. I and my students have already had a lot of ideas on how to improve the experiment, derived in part from shortcomings in the technique, methods and apparatus used as well as the results of the experiments that we conducted. This study of 'orbs' represents a good topic for further research because any member of ASPSI who wants to participate can do so wherever they live. All that is necessary is a digital camera and keeping accurate records of all the photos taken. I suggest that we make a worksheet listing the information that needs to be taken to accompany photos submitted by members and other interested parties.

As I am now unemployed and will begin a period of semi-retirement unless I can find a new job, I will have time to conduct other forms of research. I would still like to conduct a survey of physicists to see how many actually believe that some forms of paranormal phenomena are real or at least worthy of scientific scrutiny and study. As a member of the American Physical Society, I now have access to their membership files so making a list of possible respondents to the survey would not be difficult, just time consuming. I also have information on a possible source of grant funds that I would like to discuss with the Board.



# ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

## Report of the Public Relations Committee

2008

While the Public Relations Committee did not convene during the past year, several important developments took place.

The ASPSI web site was completely renovated by our webmaster, John Rayner, with many constructive suggestions from Boyce Batey and others. It should be noted that this is a work in progress and needs to be continually updated with current information so as to invite return visits. New content should be added regularly, along with prominent names, so that it will become a search target and a usable reference. Perhaps a subcommittee could be developed to receive and edit submissions for John to upload.

There is a perennial need to increase the visibility of the Academy and circulate information about its program. We have sought to encourage members of the board to distribute information about the annual conference to associates, colleagues, and friends, as well as local newspapers and other media by way of email.

There is a need to develop and implement a marketing strategy for the organization that should answer the following questions:

1. Target Audience

Who are we trying to reach: organizations, academic institutions, individuals, etc.?

How do we develop and use contact information?

2. Proposition

What is it that we are selling and what do persons respond to?

3. Offering

What do we offer to prospective members that would entice them to join ASPSI?

4. Marketing Strategy

How do we secure free and/or sponsor-paid advertising?

How do we solicit and make effective use of endorsements by members, directors, advisors, conference presenters?

How do we develop a media list to which regular announcements and information could be submitted?

How do we make effective use of our web site?

In order to promote and publicize the work of the Academy, we need to implement or continue several recommendations that were proposed last year:

1. Develop an extensive email data base of all persons that may have an interest in our mission and send them periodic communications (without spamming) so that our identity is well-established in their consciousness. Academy members can assist with this project by submitting email addresses.

2. Increase the number of web links and communication with related organizations. We now have

over 200 web sites linked to our own site, but need to be continually aware of new sources.

3. Develop a media list of newspapers, periodicals, talk-radio, etc. to whom periodical "news" information can be sent. This can also be used to promote the work and new publications of Academy members. By promoting new books, we not only provide a service to members, but also increase our own visibility.

6. Explore the possibility of selective advertising in periodicals and journals with high circulation. (Related to this would be the development of new sources of funding through sponsorships, bequests, and donations.)

Included in the minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors were the results of a questionnaire regarding "publicity/public relations/networking/membership building." Some of the suggestions are worthy of further development and implementation, but involve the commitment of board members to do so. Some of these recommendations were:

- Write articles about ASPSI for publication in related magazines.
- Contact all those listed in our link sites and ask them to reciprocate.
- Ask Board and Advisory Council members to submit lists of potential ASPSI members to whom the Executive Director can send a cover letter with copies of our publications and an invitation to become a member.
- Write articles of general interest in our field for inclusion in a national periodical with wide circulation.
- Improve the graphic quality of ASPSI brochures and other material to meet professional standards.

As always, we invite the suggestions of board members for the further enhancement of our public image and relations, but more so, we encourage your participation in the work of promoting the Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies, Inc.

Harry L. Serio, chair.



**Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 614, Bloomfield, CT 06002-0614**

**(860) 242-4593 [bateyb@infionline.net](mailto:bateyb@infionline.net)**

**<http://www.lightlink.com/arpr/>**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - MAY 30, 2008  
FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2007 TO MAY 30, 2008**

**ASSETS:** From May 24, 2007 to May 22, 2008, our cash assets increased \$4,318.65 from \$48,772.05 to \$53,040.70. We have \$13,167.61 in a Non-Profit Commercial Checking Account drawing no interest; \$1,877.20 in a Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Non-Profit Commercial Checking Account drawing no interest; \$26,272.62 in a CD at 5.15% interest, maturing on 11/3/08 and \$10,372.68 in a CD at 2.50% interest, maturing on 11/2/08. We also have 32 shares of Amgen, Inc. stock worth about \$1,351.00.

Our other assets include a copy machine, a tape duplicating machine and office supplies; 10 or fewer copies of each issue of *The Journal of Religion and Psychical Research* for 1978 - 2005 and 20 to 30 copies of each issue of *The Journal of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies* from January, 2006 through April, 2008 for sale at \$5.00 each; 2 to 10 copies of each of the 1980-1999 Conference *Proceedings*, 10 to 100 copies of the 2000 -2007 *Proceedings* for sale at \$12.00 each; and 10 to 40 copies of our newsmagazine, *The Searchlight* for the four quarters of 2000 to June, 2008 for sale at \$2.00 each..

Joseph Seliber, a Board member and former Research Committee Chairman, opened a bank account for \$5,000.00 with no interest for which he was the sole proprietor. Although the account was in the name of The Academy of Religion and Psychical Research to fund his research project on past life regression and genealogy, we've not carried this account on the books of ARPR or ASPSI as an ASPSI asset. Although he paid for the services of genealogists and hypnotherapists, results were inconclusive. Since there has been no activity on this project for 4 years, and he intends no further activity on the project, he has closed the account which had about \$4,394.18 in it when closed.

We invested \$6,500.00 to have the *Arthur Ford Anthology: Writings by and about America's Sensitive of the Century*, published in June, 1999, by Blue Dolphin Publishing with whom we have a contract for reimbursement of our investment and royalties on the sale of the books, but have received only \$420.21 to date. We received from Blue Dolphin's accountant a cover letter dated February 26, 2004 that gave an accounting to September 30, 2003 for this book. The letter indicated that the Academy had earned \$790.54 to date on the book and that after the \$420.21 previously paid, they still owed the Academy \$390.33. Since February 26, 2004, we've heard nothing further from Blue Dolphin. On 5/27/06, I e-mailed Blue Dolphin, and requested a return e-mail with a fiscal accounting of the activity on this book. Neither this request nor a June 2, 2006 phone call were answered. John White, the literary agent for literary estate of Frank C. Tribbe, tried to contact Blue Dolphin but also has received no reply. By September 1, 2007, he expected that, for a \$500.00 retainer, he could hire a California attorney and seek legally to have all rights to the book revert to the Academy, obtain the digitized version of the book, and seek another publisher - probably the Galde Press - to publish the book, do appropriate publicity and marketing, sell the books and pay royalties to ASPSI. This, however, wasn't pursued.



May 30, 2007

Annual Report of Executive Director

On May 20, 2008, I spoke with John White to learn what we needed from Blue Dolphin Publishing; on May 21, I phoned and spoke with Paul Clemens, owner of Blue Dolphin Publishing, P.O. Box 8, Nevada City, CA 95959-0008, 530-477-1503, e-mail: [bdolphin@bluedolphinpublishing.com](mailto:bdolphin@bluedolphinpublishing.com). He admitted that they're behind in sending royalties to authors, and with a new bookkeeper, expect to catch up and hope to pay royalties they owe. He said they'd try to do this within a week for ASPSI. Since we've received minimal recovery of our investment and ineffective marketing and publicity for the book in the past nine years, I asked if he could revert all rights to the book to ASPSI and give us a digital file of the book so we could find another publisher. He said this could be done by adding an addendum to the original contract and he could give us the digital file on the book (they have all their books on CDs now) so we could start up with another publisher. However, he said he doesn't advise doing this since it would be a duplication of effort. I advised John White who suggested we wait to see if Mr. Clemens fulfills his promise by paying us the royalties owed before seeking reversion of rights, signing an addendum and obtaining the digital file.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Paid membership **decreased** during the period of this report from 203 to 186 - 17 less than a year ago. We have 49 Patron, 40 Academic, 97 Supporting members; and 1 non-paying Life member (7 more Patron, 10 fewer Academic, 14 fewer Supporting and 1 Life member than we had a year ago.) In addition, there are 29 paid subscriptions to our quarterly journal - 3 less than a year ago. We've gained 9 new members in the first 5 months of this year - 30 fewer than a year ago (6 of whom joined as a result of conference publicity - 25 fewer than a year ago, consisting of 3 Patron, 1 Academic and 4 Supporting members (9 fewer Patron, 1 fewer Academic, and 8 fewer 11 fewer Supporting members than a year ago). Up to March 1 this year, we've lost 3 Academic, 8 Supporting members and 1 Subscriber.

**PUBLICATIONS:** We published the July, and October, 2007 and the January and April, 2008 issues of *The Journal of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies* that we now send to 239 (18 fewer than a year ago at this time) persons and organizations, consisting of 186 members, 1 Life Member, 29 subscribers, 14 complimentary and 9 exchange subscribers. We also published and sent to all members and Advisory Council members the September and December, 2007, and the March and June, 2008 issues of our quarterly newsmagazine, *The Searchlight*. We published and sent to our members and Advisory Council members the *Proceedings* of our 2007 annual conference, as we will the conference 2008 *Proceedings*.

**INVOLVEMENT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS:** A number of Board members are remiss in their duties as Board members, not helping to gain new members, not helping to publicize the Academy's conferences, not attending Board meetings without good reason, not returning by May 1 the "Board of Directors Questionnaire" sent on February 23 to allow time to develop the Board meeting Agenda, and prepare for the Board meeting, etc. We really need the ongoing help of all Board members in these areas. Of the 22 Board members, 11 said they would attend the Board meeting and conference, so we'll have a quorum. Dick Batzler has noted that too many persons become Board members and do not participate. He has raised the question as to whether the number of Board members ought be reduced. Let's discuss this.



Annual Report of Executive Director  
May 30, 2008

**RELATIONSHIP WITH SFF:** After Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship International, our former mother organization, experienced involuntary dissolution because of failure to file annual reports and payment to the State of Illinois, Rev. Dr. L. Richard Batzler, Rev. Lawrence Althouse, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth W. Fenske and Rev. Paul Fenske formed a group to work with SFFI attorneys to incorporate SFFI in the State of Pennsylvania as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit tax-exempt organization (which was done nearly a year ago), mainly to sell the SFFI house without having to pay income taxes on the profit. The attorneys have suggested that they may not need to apply to the IRS for non-profit status and may be able to work through a title insurance underwriter and the Pennsylvania courts to be able to sell the SFFI house without having to pay income taxes on the profits. The Fenskens are still gathering financial and administrative records required by the court to dissolve SFFI and sell the SFFI House at 3619 Baring Street in Philadelphia. A main requirement is to identify charitable non-profit organization(s) to receive any proceeds from sale of the SFFI house and library. Dick Batzler has sent a letter to the SFFI attorneys and the other three SFFI Board members, recommending that ASPSI receive the proceeds. Dick Batzler has a current report on the status of this matter which I invite him to give now..

**ASPSI GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY:** As a result of having become a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit organization, ASPSI must file annually an Information Return Form 990 (or Form 990EZ) with the IRS. This Return Form is due on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the fifth month following the close of the tax year. We filed this Short Form 990-EZ Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, Schedule A and attachments with the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service Center in Ogden, Utah on March 29, 2008. We've paid and will continue to pay income, Social Security and Medicare taxes quarterly to the IRS on Form 941 for Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax. For Connecticut's income tax withholding requirements, we've submitted and will continue submitting quarterly Form CT-941 Connecticut Quarterly Reconciliation of Withholding to the Connecticut Department of Labor. (Since my salary is \$333.33 monthly, the withholding amount is \$0.00 for a monthly payroll period.) We've also filed with the State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services, obtained our Corporate, Sales and Use registration number, have filed quarterly Form S-114 Sales and Use Tax Return, requested permission to file annually and the request was approved. Annually, we'll also need to pay \$25.00 and file a report with the State of Connecticut describing our activities during the past year. We've received a Certificate of Exemption from Registration under the Connecticut Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act since we receive less than \$50,000.00 per annum in donations. Since I'm an ASPSI employee, we've registered with the Connecticut Department of Labor, have filed and will continue filing quarterly an employer Wage and Research Information Report since we're subject to the Connecticut Unemployment Compensation Law and have chosen the reimbursement method to pay into the unemployment compensation fund.

On March 12, 2007, I filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue an Application for Sales Tax Exemption so we wouldn't need to pay a sales tax on our conference activity at DeSales University. On April 27, 2007, I contacted the Department of Revenue Exemption Unit and was told that there is a four month processing period for this application. On December 18, 2007, the Pennsylvania Department of

Annual Report of Executive Director  
May 30, 2008

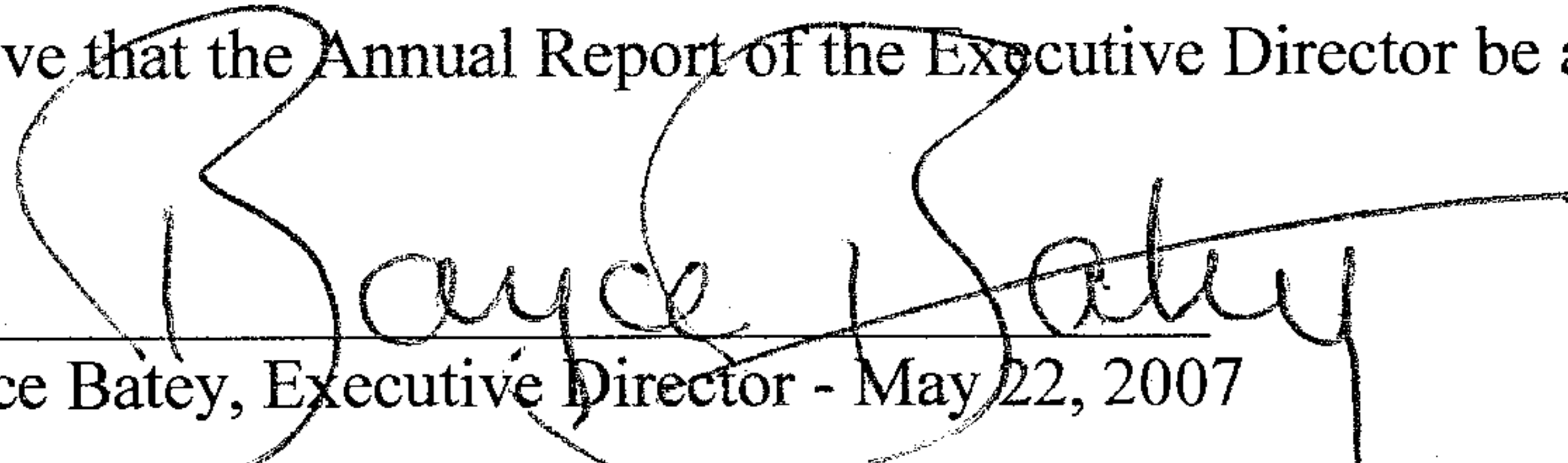
Revenue finally wrote us, saying that ASPSI does not qualify for exempt status. Even if we did qualify, we would still need to pay a 6% PA Sales Tax for meeting room rental and a 6% PA State Occupancy Tax for all sleeping room rentals during our May 30 - June 2, 2008 conference at DeSales University. This will result in a tax of about \$350.00 for our conference this year.

**OUR WEB SITE:** In January, 2008, John Rayner, a member of our Board of Directors, completed a massive revision of our website, became its Web Master, and changed its website address to [www.aspsi.org/](http://www.aspsi.org/). Our site has over 200 links in 32 categories to other sites with interests akin to our own as a research resource, printable 2008 conference schedule and registration forms and other appropriate material. A notable addition to our website during the past year is the "Life After Death" section which Michael Tymn has prepared and continues to update quarterly..

**BACKUP ACCESS TO ACADEMY MEMBERSHIP LISTS AND FINANCES:** To address the security of our membership list and financial assets in the event of my demise by accident, I send a hard copy and a diskette of all Academy members, subscribers, et al. with their addresses, phone numbers, membership status and member expiration dates to our Secretary/Treasurer Karin Nemri, who has also signed signature cards and papers which I've filed with two banks, giving her access to the funds in our two checking accounts with Wachovia Bank and two CDs with Webster Bank.

**FINANCES/FUND-RAISING:** Based on the budget that projects a \$3,481.00 surplus this year, I see no need for a formal fund-raising campaign this year except to raise additional funds for the Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund.

I move that the Annual Report of the Executive Director be accepted.

  
Boyce Batey, Executive Director - May 22, 2007



## **2008 ASPSI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

### **Suggested Agenda Items:**

- 1) R. Batzler to prepare a report on SFFI current status and its relation to ASPSI - R. Batzler
- 2) Discuss responsibilities of ASPSI Board members and the need to involve them more - R. Batzler
- 3) A time for creative thinking outside the box about the function of ASPSI and its relevance to contemporary culture and global developments - H. Serio

### **Publicity and to increase membership:**

- 1) Advertise in the Association for Death Education and Counseling newsletter - L. LaGrand
- 2) Contact medical societies if our 2009 conference theme is "Spiritual and Paranormal Healing" or "Healing from a Distance" - D. Morse
- 3) Contact appropriate organizations/people when our conference relates to them - B. Batey
- 4) Reduce non-academic membership fee to \$25.00 - M. Tymn
- 5) Hold conference two weeks later so Academicians can attend - S. Betty
- 6) Seek more websites willing to add a link to the ASPSI URL - S. Hall
- 7) Board members: Be proactive in seeking colleague/special friends for membership - R. Batzler
- 8) Write an article about ASPSI for publication in the ARE and psychology Magazines - K. Herrick
- 9) Contact all our Link sites; have them put a link to us on their website and publicize our conference - K. Herrick. Link ASPSI website to as many other similar websites as possible - S. Hall
- 10) Continue efforts to get more well known speakers for the conference - R. Batzler
- 11) Send ASPSI introductory letter to religion/psychology departments - Y. Limoges
- 12) Write a good article (e.g. life after death) and get it into a magazine (e.g. AARP, Reader's Digest) with reference to ASPSI to generate memberships - R. Batzler
- 13) Detailed proposals in Public Relations Committee Report - H. Serio
- 14) Identify a person with public relations expertise willing to consult with us - H. Serio
- 15) Put our best essays on specific topics in a book, publish and send free copies to O'Riley, Alan King, Oprah and others. Sell books at scholarly and academic conferences and book stores. - J. Beichler

### **Fundraising sources:**

- 1) Locate ASPSI or Board members able and willing to write and submit grants to appropriate foundations who may be interested in our work and/or create a brochure offering opportunities for annuity, legacy, will, etc. funding for ASPSI - R. Batzler
- 2) Continue effort for members to give gift memberships to interested persons - D. Elton
- 3) Clarify issue of honoraria for speakers (e.g. how much, who decides, etc.) - R. Batzler
- 4) Put our best essays on a specific topic in a book, publish and send free copies to O'Riley, Alan King, Oprah and others. Sell books at scholarly and academic conferences and book stores. - J. Beichler

### **Locale and Dates of 2009 Annual Conference:**

- 1) Avoid scheduling dates of ASPSI conferences with dates of other groups such as SSE - S. Hall



## ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT: JANUARY 1 - DEC. 31, 2007

## INCOME:

## ACTUAL:

Membership Dues	\$9,949.00
Journal Subscriptions	\$625.00
Journal Sales	\$149.00
Proceedings Sales	\$463.80
Donations	\$1,668.50
Donations to Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund	\$4,386.80
Sles of Conference Cassette Tapes	\$714.00
2007 Conference, DeSales Univ. Registrations	\$11,797.00
2007 Conf., DeSales Univ. Room, Board	\$11,495.00
Miscellaneous	\$14.10
Interest on 3 CDs	\$1,693.13
Royalties from Ebsco on Journal and Proceedings	\$93.35
Books	\$85.00

TOTAL: \$43,133.73

## EXPENSES:

Executive Director's Salary	\$2,878.00
2007 Conf., DeSales, Room/Board/Conf Fees/mixer	\$12,338.00
2007 Conf., DeSales, Printing/Reimburse Overpayment	\$270.60
2007 Conf. Keynote Speaker Fee and Expenses	\$3,669.80
2007 Conf. DeSales, Spec. Event Ins. Liab. Premium	\$1,148.00

## Office Expenses:

-Postage/Mailing	\$2,695.55
-Telephone/Fax	\$168.66
-Supplies/Equipment	\$619.73
-Web Site design/maintenance/AOL/PC repairs	\$100.00
-Printing/Photocopying	\$771.08
-AOL Costs	\$247.00

## Publications:

-Editor Fee	\$4,000.00
-Typing 4 issues of journal	\$1,600.00
-Typing 4 issues of The Searchlight	\$600.00
-Printing 4 issues of journal	\$576.80
-Printing 4 issues of The Searchlight	\$317.32
-Printing Conference Proceedings	\$488.72

## Advertising/Publicity

Pay Membership fee to Tribbe Memorial Fund	\$100.00
Pay membership fees from Tribbe Memorial Fund	\$48.00
Social Security and Medicare taxes paid to IRS	\$306.00
Income/Soc. Security/Neducare /taxes paid to IRS	\$1,122.00
Bank Charges	\$222.25
CT Sales Tax Permit and Corporation Fee	\$75.00
2006 Income/Soc.Sec./Medicare Taxes/Penalties/Inte	\$1,504.69

TOTAL: \$35,867.20

Surplus: \$7,266.53

Cash assets increased \$7,266.59 from \$38,677.60 on 12/31/06 to \$45,944.13 on 12/31/07. Cash assets include \$6,191.35 in a checking aaccount; \$2,180.20 Tribbe Memorial Checkng Account; a \$10,246.32 8 month CD; a \$25,840.22 15 month CD; and 32 shares of AMGEN Inc. stock valued at \$46.44 a share, worth \$1,486.34 on 12/31/08. These shares decreased \$489.06 in value in 2007.



## ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT: JANUARY 1 - MAY 22, 2008

INCOME:	ACTUAL:
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Membership Dues	4,880.00
Journal Subscriptions	78.00
Journal Sales	50.00
Proceedings Sales	96.00
Sale of Cassettes	21.00
Donations	715.00
Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund Donations	125.00
2007 Conference, DeSales Univ., Registrations	5,725.00
2007 Conf., DeSales Univ., R&B, Mixer, \$15 Fee	8,408.00
Interest - Certificates of Deposit	500.00
Bank Credit	0.00
Royalties from Ebsco on Journal and Proceedings	74.58
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TOTAL:	20,672.58
EXPENSES:	
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Executive Secretary's Allowance	1,198.35
2007 Conf. DeSales Univ., R&B, Mixer, \$15, etc.	6,000.00
-Print conference brochures	174.00
-Print 500 Cassette order forms/abstracts	40.00
-Reimburse overpayment of registration fees	146.00
-Tribbe Fund, Speaker fee, R&B, travel expense	428.00
-2007 Conf DeSales Certificate of Insurance	350.00
Office Expenses:	
-Postage/Mailing	1,527.19
-Telephone/FAX	18.55
-Supplies/Equipment	59.39
-Photocopying	18.10
-AOL	96.00
Publications:	
-Journal Editor's Fee	1,666.66
-Typing journal	400.00
-Typing The Searchlight	300.00
-Printing 300 copies of JSPS 1 issue	138.00
-Printing 300 copies of The Searchlight - 1 iss	198.00
IRS, 50% employee SS/Medicare Benefits	76.50
IRS, employee's 50% SS/Medicare + wage tax deducte	280.50
Sec. of State, CT annual report fee	0.00
CT Dept. of Revenues - Sales Tax Permit	0.00
U.S. Treasury, Penalties/Interest -delayed filings	0
Advertising/Publicity	0.00
Bank Charges	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
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TOTAL:	13,115.24
Surplus/Deficit:	7,557.34

Cash assets increased \$7,096.57 from \$45,944.13 on 1/1/08 to \$53,040.70 on 5/22/08. We have \$36,645.30 in two Certificates of Deposit and \$15,044.81 in two non-profit Checking Accounts plus \$1,350.66 in 32 shares of Amgen, Inc. stock.

BB 5/22/08

ASPSIX08.WKS



ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR 2008 - 2009

	2007	2008	2009
INCOME:	ACTUAL	PROPOSED	PROPOSED
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Membership Dues	9,949.00	8,000.00	9,000.00
Journal Subscriptions	625.00	600.00	600.00
Journal Sales	149.00	100.00	100.00
Proceedings Sales	463.80	400.00	450.00
Newsletter Sales	0.00	50.00	50.00
Cassette tapes of Conferences	714.00	500.00	600.00
Investment Return (A. Ford Anthology)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Royalties (Ebsco on Journals/Proceedings)	93.35	100.00	100.00
Donations/Fundraising	1,668.50	1,000.00	1,500.00
Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Donations	4,422.94	2,000.00	2,000.00
Books	85.00	0.00	0.00
Annual Conference, Registrations	11,797.00	6,000.00	10,000.00
Annual Conference, Room and Board	11,495.00	8,400.00	10,000.00
Interest - Checking/Savings	1,693.18	1,000.00	1,300.00
Miscellaneous	14.10	20.00	20.00
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TOTAL:	43,169.87	28,170.00	35,720.00
EXPENSES:			
-----			
Executive Sec. Allowance	2,878.00	2,878.00	2,878.00
ASPSI Conf. Room/Meals/Mixer, etc.	12,608.60	6,800.00	10,000.00
Conference Liability Insurance Premium	1,148.00	350.00	350.00
Tribbe Fund, Speaker fees and expenses	3,669.80	650.00	1,000.00
Office Expenses:			
-Supplies/Equipment	619.73	200.00	600.00
-Telephone	68.65	80.00	100.00
-Postage/Mailing	2,695.55	3,300.00	3,500.00
-Web site design and maintenance	100.00	100.00	100.00
-Printing/Photocopying	721.08	600.00	600.00
-AOL Costs	247.00	250.00	250.00
Publications:			
-Journal Editor's Fee	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
-Typing Journals	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00
-Printing Journals	576.80	600.00	700.00
-Type Proceedings	0.00	0.00	0.00
-Printing Proceedings	488.72	500.00	500.00
-Typing Newsletter	600.00	600.00	600.00
-Printing Newsletter	317.32	400.00	400.00
F. Tribbe Fund pays ASPSI Member fees	148.00	50.00	50.00
IRS 50% Employee SS/Medicare Benefits	306.00	306.00	306.00
Income/Soc. Sec./Medicare/Taxes to IRS	1,122.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Advertising/Publicity/Public Relations	0.00	100.00	100.00
U.S. Treasury Penalties/Interest late fi	1,504.69	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges	222.25	50.00	50.00
CT Dept. of Revenues Sales Tax Permit	75.00	0.00	0.00
CT Sec. of State Report Fee	25.00	25.00	25.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	50.00	50.00
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TOTAL:	35,742.19	24,689.00	28,959.00
NET ANNUAL SURPLUS OR DEFICIT:	7,427.68	3,481.00	6,761.00



ACADEMY OF SPIRITUALITY AND PARANORMAL STUDIES, INC.

Report of the Fund-Raising Committee

April 25, 2008

Because I was negligent last year from June 2006- June 2007 in my duties as the chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee, I attempted to redeem myself last Fall by sending a personal letter to virtually every member of the Academy, asking for donations for the Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund, to allow us to continue to invite and pay guest speakers. A copy of the letter is attached.

The response to the letter resulted in "substantial donations to this fund," according to the Board of Directors/Advisory Council report by Boyce Batey. Since the money was sent to the Academy office, and not to me, I do not know the exact amount of money donated.

My own expenses were the cost of stamps and envelopes, plus considerable time spent to write each member. If the Academy deems my efforts worthwhile, I would be willing again next year to undertake the same project.

Respectfully submitted.

Dr. John F. Miller, III  
8704 Whisperwood Court  
Tampa, Florida 33635  
813- 880-0214  
[drjohnmiller@juno.com](mailto:drjohnmiller@juno.com)

Dr. John F. Miller, III  
8704 Whisperwood Court  
Tampa, Florida 33635

November 13, 2007

Dear [inserted Academy Member's name]:

Those who attended the 2007 conference of the Academy of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies, Inc., were treated to a marvelous experience. The subject, "What the Bleep do We Know About Life After Death?" and the keynote speaker, Raymond A. Moody, M.D., Ph.D., drew the largest audience in recent history and an enthusiastic response from the participants.

In 2006 the Academy's Board of Directors voted to honor Frank C. Tribbe by setting up a fund to pay the expenses of well-known and respected scholars to give a memorial lecture at our annual conference. The Academy initiated this precedent by inviting Dr. Moody to be our first Frank C. Tribbe Memorial speaker.

Frank was the Treasurer of the Academy, formerly the Academy of Religion & Psychological Research, for twenty-seven years and contributed his time, energy, and considerable knowledge to the Academy by conference presentations, journal articles, and books. A retired government attorney, Frank wrote numerous books. The Shroud of Turin in Science and History; The Holy Grail: Mystery Solved; Portrait of Jesus; and the Arthur Ford Anthology: these are some of Frank's best known and beloved writings.

As former President of the Academy and now Chair of the Fund-Raising Committee, I am writing to ask that you consider making a contribution to the Frank C. Tribbe Memorial Fund to allow us to continue to invite and compensate well-known and well-respected scholars to address the Academy at our annual conferences. The names of contributors will be included as donors in a future issue of the Academy's newsletter.

Contributions in any amount will be appreciated. Last year two members of the Board paid thousands of dollars out of their own pockets in order to invite Dr. Moody, whose book LIFE AFTER LIFE made the field of near-death experience both popular and respectable. I ask you to consider assisting your Academy in this new venture by contributing \$10, \$25, \$50, or more to the Frank Tribbe Memorial Fund. Send checks to ASPSI, P.O. Box 614, Bloomfield, CT 06002-0614. Thank you very much.

Boyce Batey, the Academy's Executive Secretary, wanted me to enclose a brochure in case you knew anyone who might be interested in joining the Academy or if you wanted to gift someone with a membership. Thanking you in advance for your support. Our conference next years will be May 30-June 2, 2008 at DeSales University, outside Allentown, PA on the subject, "Beyond the Veil: Evidence for Life After Death." I hope that you can join us at the conference.

Cordially,



ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - MAY 30, 2008 FOR  
PARAGRAPH 4 ON THE *ARTHUR FORD ANTHOLOGY*:

I received Blue Dolphin's Account Statement of 6/14/07 from 10/1/003 to 3/31/07 which showed that as of 3/31/07 they had sold 468 copies of the book since June, 1999 for a net sales amount of \$3,852.69 and owed the Academy \$598.52, which is our Investor's earnings of 40% of sales. On July 18, 2007, I spoke with Paul Clemens, their owner and asked when we could expect to receive the money owed. He said they owed over \$200,000.00 in royalties and was unable to pay now.

On May 20, 2008, I spoke with John White to learn what we needed from Blue Dolphin Publishing; on May 21, I phoned and spoke with Paul Clemens, owner of Blue Dolphin Publishing, P.O. Box 8, Nevada City, CA 95959-0008, 530-477-1503, e-mail: [bdolphin@bluedolphinpublishing.com](mailto:bdolphin@bluedolphinpublishing.com). He admitted that they're behind in sending royalties to authors, and with a new bookkeeper, expect to catch up and hope to pay royalties they owe. He said they'd try to do this within a week for ASPSI. Since we've received minimal recovery of our investment and ineffective marketing and publicity for the book in the past nine years, I asked if he could revert all rights to the book to ASPSI and give us a digital file of the book so we could find another publisher. He said this could be done by adding an addendum to the original contract and he could give us the digital file on the book (they have all their books on CDs now) so we could start up with another publisher. However, he said he doesn't advise doing this since it would be a duplication of effort. I advised John White who suggested we wait to see if Mr. Clemens fulfills his promise by paying us the royalties owed before seeking reversion of rights, signing an addendum and obtaining the digital file.

I received Blue Dolphin's Account Statement of May 22, 2008 for the period from 4/1/07 to 3/31/08 showing that in this year, they had net sales of \$280.40 and total sales of 503 books since inception of \$4,133.09. They owed a balance of author royalties of \$85.84 which would be paid to Frank Tribbe's estate and balance of our earnings due of \$670.73 which would "be paid shortly." Their cover letter states, "As you can see, the expenses for the title to date are \$11,823.73, which means that Blue Dolphin Publishing has invested in excess of \$5,300.00. Please keep in mind that we also have a vested interest in this title." I shared this information with John White who suggested I ask Paul how soon we could expect payment and what could Blue Dolphin Publishing do to sell more of this book in future. I phoned Paul Clemens on May 27. He said he'd send the check within a week and gave these suggestions for more future sales of the book:

- 1) For marketing without cost except time, he has a list of hundreds of radio stations, many on the Internet, that have interviews with persons on current subjects. If ASPSI can identify spokespersons who can speak to the media on topics related to what Arthur Ford said and did, and make reference to the *Arthur Ford Anthology*, he would be able to direct media reviewers to such spokespersons.
- 2) Since an increasing amount of book sales are now made through the Internet, create e-mail flyers and e-mailing lists and use Blue Dolphin's e-mail flyers and e-mailing lists to send the flyers to others with preferred lists, asking them to forward e-mail flyers to others with preferred lists.
- 3) To reach a younger audience, we could put any videos/audio material of Arthur Ford on uTube.
- 4) For a cost of about \$700.00 per month, Barnes and Noble could be paid to put the *Arthur Ford Anthology* on a list of books in the same category as those persons are buying.